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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/074,339	02/12/2002	Charles E. Taylor	SHPR-01041USP SRM	5846
23910	7590	07/13/2005	EXAMINER	
FLIESLER MEYER, LLP FOUR EMBARCADERO CENTER SUITE 400 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111			TRAN, THAO T	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1711	

DATE MAILED: 07/13/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/074,339	TAYLOR ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Thao T. Tran	1711

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 April 2005.  
 2a) This action is FINAL.                    2b) This action is non-final.  
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1,2,4-9,11-15,18-34 and 36-41 is/are pending in the application.  
 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
 6) Claim(s) 1,2,4-9,11-15,18-34 and 36-41 is/are rejected.  
 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:  
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>4/4/05</u> .	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Reply***

1. This is in response to the Reply filed on 4/4/2005. The IDS filed on 4/4/2005 is also acknowledged.
2. Claims 1-2, 4-9, 11-15, 18-34, 36-41 are currently pending in this application. No claims are amended in this Reply.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. In view of the prior Office action of 1/11/2005, the rejection of claims 1-2, 4-7, 11, 14-15, 18-19, 20-30, 32-33, under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kawashima (US Pat. 4,516,991), has been withdrawn upon further consideration.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-2, 4-9, 11-15, 18-34, and 36-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kawashima (US Pat. 4,516,991).

Kawashima teaches an air cleaning apparatus that includes a plurality of dust collecting electrodes 11, ionizing wire electrodes 20, wherein the wire electrodes comprise coil springs. (See abstract; Fig. 6 & 9; col. 3, ln. 33-40; col. 6, ln. 47-52; col. 7, ln. 54-62).

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Kawashima differs from the presently claimed invention in that the reference does not specify the wire electrodes when coiled is at least 15% shorter than its' straight length. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, that the length of the coiled electrode would have been optimized by routine experimentation. This is because it has been known in the art that coiling is a result-effective parameter and the length of the coiled electrode would have been determined depending upon different parameters, such as the size of the apparatus, the distance between the wire and the collecting electrodes, in order to bring forth maximal benefits attendant therewith.

In regards to claims 23, 25-28, 37-39, it has been within the skill in the art that how the apparatus is operated would have insignificant patentable weight in an apparatus claim.

Kawashima teaches the wire electrodes to be straight or coiled, but the reference does not teach the wire electrodes to be curvey or slack. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, that slight modifications of the shape of the electrodes would have insignificant patentable weight, since whether the electrodes would be coiled, slack, or curved, they would have functioned equally well and would have given the same results.

#### *Response to Arguments*

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-2, 4-9, 11-15, 18-34, and 36-41 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

***Contact Information***

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thao T. Tran whose telephone number is 571-272-1080. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, from 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Seidleck can be reached on 571-272-1078. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

tt  
July 11, 2005

*Thao Tran*  
THAO T. TRAN  
PATENT EXAMINER